



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
37 CFR 1.10

AMENDMENT/REPLY

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on January 29, 2004, please enter this response and consider the claims in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicants believe that no additional fee is due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AVAN/000256 for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.